

REMARKS

Claims 56-61 are presently pending in this application. In the February 22, 2007, Office Action, claims 46-55 were noted by the Examiner as being directed to a combination that is independent or distinct from the sub-combination of the originally claimed subject matter, and claims 56-61 were noted as being directed to an appropriate sub-combination. Claims 56-61 were accordingly deemed to be constructively elected for prosecution, and thus claims 46-55 have been canceled in this paper without prejudice to pursuing these claims in a continuation application.

Claims 56-59 were rejected in the present Office Action under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,142,779 issued to LaBounty ("LaBounty"). Additionally, claim 60 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over LaBounty as applied to claim 56.

As a preliminary matter, the undersigned attorney wishes to thank the Examiner for engaging in a personal interview on June 6, 2007. During the interview the Examiner and the undersigned attorney discussed the present Office Action, the LaBounty '779 patent, and claim 56. The Examiner agreed that amended claim 56 overcomes the prior art of record, and therefore the applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejections of claims 56-60. The applicants also request that this paper also constitute the applicants' Interview Summary. If the Examiner notices any deficiencies in this regard, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned representative.

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the applicants request reconsideration of the application and respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any questions or believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, she is encouraged to call the undersigned representative at (206) 359-3258.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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